

Message Text

SECRET

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12
ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 ACDA-05 ERDA-05 AF-06 ARA-06

CIAE-00 DODE-00 EUR-12 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NASA-01

NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01

OES-03 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 NRC-05 /120 W
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R 230212Z AUG 75
FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1515
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY SUVA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL PORT MORESBY
CINPAC HONOLULU UNN

S E C R E T USUN 3810

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, PFOR, NZ, XP
SUBJ: SOUTH PACIFIC NUCLEAR FREE ZONE

REF: (A) WELLINGTON 2418
(B) STATE 194948
(C) STATE 188285
(D) STATE 132180

1. THE SYG CIRCULATED A LETTER DATED AUGUST 15 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF FIJI AND NEW ZEALAND REQUESTING INCLUSION IN THE AGENDA OF THE 30TH SESSION OF THE GA AN ITEM ENTITLED "ESTABLISHMENT OF A NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE IN SOUTH PACIFIC". CIRCULATED WITH THE LETTER WERE AN EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM AND DRAFT RESOLUTION (SEE REF A).

2. WE HELD OFF OUR DEMARCHE TO AMBASSADOR SIKIVOU (REF B)
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UNTIL LOBBYING COMPLETED ON THE PUERTO RICAN ITEM IN THE

COMMITTEE OF 24. ON AUGUST 21 AMBASSADOR BENNETT TOLD SIKIVOU OF US RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE SOUTH PACIFIC NUCLEAR FREE ZONE (SPNFZ).

3. ON AUGUST 22 WE CONVEYED TO FIJIAN MISSION OFFICER NANDAN THE SUBSTANCE OF PARAGRAPH 1, 2, 3 AND 4 OF REF C AFTER MAKING GENERAL REMARKS ALONG THE LINES OF PARAGRAPH AS 4 AND 5 OF REF D.

4. NANDAN SAID THAT HE WAS ALREADY AWARE OF SOME OF THE POINTS AND THAT HE HAD RECEIVED A COMMUNICATION FROM SUVA THAT THE SPNFZ SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO AFFECT UNDULY THE INTERESTS OF THE USG. NANDAN EMPHASIZED THAT "OUR MOTIVES ARE QUITE HONORABLE" IN THE MATTER. HE SAID THAT IT WAS NOT THE INTENT TO EXCLUDE THE US FROM THE SOUTH PACIFIC OR MAKE UNNECESSARY TROUBLE FOR US, TIE US DOWN IN A WAY WHICH MIGHT AFFECT FIJIAN SECURITY, OR INTERFERE WITH FREEDOM OF NAVIGATION. NANDAN STATED THAT FIJI AND NEW ZEALAND SUBMITTED THE DRAFT RESOLUTION WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH THE LATIN AMERICAN SOUTH PACIFIC STATES AND SOME OTHERS IN ORDER THAT THEY MIGHT RETAIN CONTROL OF THE INITIATIVE AND CONTINUE CLOSE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE U.S. THE PRESENT TEXT IS VERY TENTATIVE AND DESIGNED TO ELICIT REACTIONS FROM OTHER SOUTH PACIFIC STATES, PARTICULARLY THE LATIN AMERICAN SOUTH PACIFIC STATES AND INDONESIA.

5. NANDAN TOLD US THAT THE PRINCIPAL IMPETUS FOR FIJIAN INTEREST IN THE SPNFZ WAS FRENCH NUCLEAR TESTING AND THAT FIJIAN EMPHASIS IS THE ENVIRONMENT RATHER THAN SECURITY AS IS THE CASE WITH NEW ZEALAND. HE SAID THAT THE SPNFZ MIGHT BE CONFINED INITIALLY TO LAND-BASED NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS.

6. NANDAN AGAIN EMPHASIZED FIJI'S FLEXIBILITY ON THE SPNFZ, FIJI'S DESIRE TO COOPERATE WITH THE U.S. AND CONSULT CLOSELY WITH US. HE IS ALSO MINDFUL, HE SAID, OF THE ABSENCE OF AUSTRALIAN CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION.
FERGUSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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